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disposal, and quickly making her purchases, she packed them into her little car and started once more for the lonely house with the new born babe, as the twilight came. But even Fords are not always dependable and Miss Angel found herself a mile from the Bergmans with a stalled car.

Not far away a large contracting firm was engaged upon a piece of engineering work so important that although all the workmen were released to go to their homes for Christmas, the chief engineer was obliged to stay on guard. At twilight he sat disconsolately on the gate beside the road, when he spied what looked like a tree walking down the road. He hastened to see what it could be, and discovered little Miss Angel struggling under the weight of a Christmas tree and her big baskets. Taking her load, the young engineer proceeded with the nurse towards the Bergmans and listened to her story. "I was just thinking," said he, "how I wished I could find a home where there are little children, so I could eat Christmas supper with them, and afterwards with them put out into the snow a large dish of oatmeal with sugar and butter, as we do in my native land of Denmark. The Christmas fairies will come and eat, and it brings good luck throughout the year."

And so it came about that the Christmas tree was lighted, the Christmas dish for the fairies was placed upon the snow, and the Bergman children, Miss Angel and the engineer sang the sweet carols of Christmas outside the window where the mother and new baby lay, whilst over all waved the "Stars and Stripes" of hope and promise. Thus the customs of the old lands brought the desire of their hearts and cheered and brightened the lives of a few who, having gone through the great melting pot, had become good and loyal Americans.

The story the Christmas fairies started for the little Public Health Nurse and the big engineer is one for another Christmas.

HAND DISINFECTION

In the September issue of the *American Journal of Public Health* an article describing a series of experiments by John R. Conover, M.D., and John L. Laird, M.D., is summarized as follows: 1. Eupad, a mixture of equal parts of boric acid and chlorinated lime, is recommended as a substance to be employed in the strength of three grams (one teaspoonful) to 1000 cc. (one quart of water) for disinfecting the hands after contact with contagious diseases.

2. The properties required of such a preparation, and the essential principles on which the tests are based are described in detail.

3. The substances are grouped according to the element or radical which is credited with the germicidal action.

4. Condensed tables showing the action of Eupad and other substances examined are included.